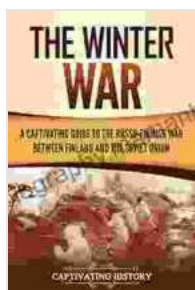


# The Russo-Finnish War: A Comprehensive Overview

The Russo-Finnish War, also known as the Winter War, was a military conflict between the Soviet Union and Finland that took place from November 30, 1939, to March 13, 1940.



## The Winter War: A Captivating Guide to the Russo-Finnish War between Finland and the Soviet Union (The Eastern Front Book 1) by Captivating History

★★★★☆ 4.2 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 10758 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 63 pages  
Lending : Enabled



The war began when the Soviet Union invaded Finland in an attempt to annex the Karelian Isthmus and other areas of Finnish territory. Finland, which was vastly outnumbered and outgunned, put up a fierce resistance and inflicted heavy casualties on the Soviet Army.

Despite Finland's heroic efforts, the Soviet Union eventually prevailed and forced Finland to cede territory in the Treaty of Moscow in March 1940. The

war had a profound impact on both countries and on the course of World War II.

## **Causes of the War**

The Russo-Finnish War was caused by a combination of factors, including:

- The Soviet Union's desire to expand its territory and to secure its border with Finland
- Finland's refusal to cede territory to the Soviet Union
- The Soviet Union's belief that Finland was a weak and vulnerable nation that could be easily conquered

## **Key Events of the War**

The Russo-Finnish War can be divided into three main phases:

- **The Soviet Invasion (November 30, 1939 - December 19, 1939):** The Soviet Union invaded Finland without warning on November 30, 1939. The Finnish Army, which was vastly outnumbered and outgunned, put up a fierce resistance and inflicted heavy casualties on the Soviet Army.
- **The Finnish Counteroffensive (December 19, 1939 - February 1940):** The Finnish Army launched a counteroffensive in December 1939 and pushed the Soviet Army back in several areas. The Finnish Army was able to hold its own against the Soviet Army for several weeks, but the Soviet Union eventually began to gain ground.
- **The Soviet Breakthrough (February 1940 - March 13, 1940):** In February 1940, the Soviet Army broke through the Finnish defenses

and began to advance on the Finnish capital of Helsinki. The Finnish Army was forced to retreat, and on March 13, 1940, the Finnish government signed the Treaty of Moscow, which ended the war.

## **Outcomes of the War**

The Russo-Finnish War ended with the signing of the Treaty of Moscow on March 13, 1940. The treaty forced Finland to cede territory to the Soviet Union, including the Karelian Isthmus, the city of Vyborg, and the islands of Hogland and Suursaari.

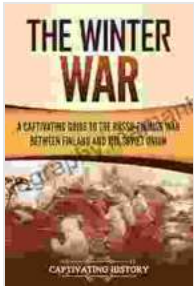
The Russo-Finnish War had a profound impact on both countries. For Finland, the war was a national tragedy. Finland lost over 25,000 men in the war, and it was forced to cede territory to the Soviet Union. However, the war also had a positive impact on Finland. The war helped to unite the Finnish people and to strengthen their national identity.

For the Soviet Union, the war was a military and political victory. The Soviet Union was able to annex territory from Finland, and it was able to secure its border with Finland. However, the war also had a negative impact on the Soviet Union. The war exposed the weaknesses of the Soviet Army, and it led to the deaths of over 100,000 Soviet soldiers.

The Russo-Finnish War also had a significant impact on the course of World War II. The war showed the world that the Soviet Army was not invincible, and it helped to embolden other countries to resist Soviet aggression.

The Russo-Finnish War was a significant event in the history of Finland and the Soviet Union. The war had a profound impact on both countries and on

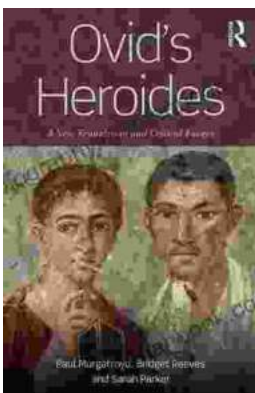
the course of World War II. The war is a reminder of the cost of war and the importance of peace.



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